

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:RFILLING:JJ  
APPROVED BY AF:WSCHAUFLE  
AF/E:RSBARRETT  
AF/EPS:RBDUNCAN  
EB/CSB/OSB:RMBUCK  
D:DHWOOD

----- 042209

R 070142Z AUG 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 196201

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BPRO, BTIO, SU

SUBJECT: SUDANESE- AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

REF: KHARTOUM 2290

, IN RECENT TALKS WITH DEPT. OFFICERS DAVID SCOTT DIS-  
CUSSED HIS INTEREST IN CREATING A SUDANESE-AMERICAN  
BUSINESS COUNCIL ALONG THE LINES OF SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS  
HE INVOLVED WITH IN EGYPT AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. SCOTT SEEMED  
WELL AWARE AT THAT TIME AND IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH  
JOHN BREWER OF U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT BUSINESS  
COUNCIL WAS PURELY PRIVATE AFFAIR BETWEEN U.S. AND SUDANESE  
BUSINESS LEADERS AND THAT THERE NO ROLE FOR USG IN ITS  
FORMATION. WE DID, OF COURSE, SAY DEPT. LOOKED FAVORABLY  
ON SUCH PRIVATE EFFORTS WHICH COULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN EX-  
PANDING U.S. INTERESTS IF THERE WAS SUFFICIENT INTEREST  
ON PART OF U.S. BUSINESSMEN.

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2. ON AUGUST 2 MINISTER OF STATE DENG AND CHARGE AL-

SAMAHOUNY INDEPENDENTLY INFORMED DEPT. THAT MINED KHALID HAD CALLED TO ASK THAT DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND APPROVAL ON FORMATION OF BUSINESS COUNCIL BE SOUGHT. AF/E INFORMED AL-SAMAHOUNY THAT WE ARE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO CREATION

OF SUDANESE-AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL, BUT THAT SINCE THIS A COMPLETELY PRIVATE MATTER NO USG APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.

3. THE U.S. CHAMBER HAS INFORMED THE DEPT. THAT IT UNLIKELY ENOUGH AMERICAN BUSINESS EXECUTIVES WOULD BE WILLING TO DEDICATE SUFFICIENT TIME TO BUSINESS COUNCIL TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS AT THIS STAGE OF US-SUDANESE BUSINESS RELATIONS. UNCLEAR THAT THIS ATTITUDE MIGHT CHANGE IF SCOTT DECIDED TO PUSH.

4. COMMENT: DURING JUNE 11 BRIEFING SESSION ORGANIZED IN DEPT. FOR MEMBERS OF NIMEIRI PARTY, MINFIN BIHEIRY RAISED QUESTION OF "JOINT US-GOS COMMISSION." REACTION OF DEPT. OFFICER WAS NEGATIVE, POINTING OUT THAT WHILE WE DID NOT OBJECT TO PERIODIC MEETINGS BETWEEN RANKING U.S. AND GOS OFFICIALS IN EITHER WASHINGTON OR KHARTOUM, WE DID NOT WISH TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THIS FORMAT. REFTEL GIVES US THE IMPRESSION THAT DESPITE THEIR EARLIER UNDERSTANDING OF THE TWO SEPARATE FORMATS SCOTT AND/OR GOS MAY NOW BE CONFUSING THE BUSINESS COUNCIL WITH THE JOINT COMMISSION.

5. YOU MAY RESPOND ALONG FOREGOING LINES TO ANY GOS QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. HABIB

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